

REMARKS

This application, as amended herein, contains claims 1 - 16 and newly added claim 17.

The Examiner's objection to the drawings is noted, and the Applicants agree that new drawings (and in particular at least a new Fig. 2) are required. Thus, in accordance with the helpful suggestion of the Examiner, a proposed drawing correction for Fig. 2 is attached. This drawing correction merely places the print content of the various blocks outside the blocks, in hand written letters, so that the drawing can be read for purposes of examination. No new matter has been added. In fact, the added lettering is exactly what is found within the various blocks and is also supported by the specification. If the Examiner approves of this informal drawing, a formal drawing with the blocks having the usual white background and black lettering within the blocks, will be submitted to replace Fig. 2. If the Examiner wishes to have a new Fig. 1 as well, it will be re-drawn at the same time. The approval and further guidance of the Examiner is respectfully requested in the next communication.

Claims 1 - 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Oliver et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention, as set forth in claim 1, as amended herein, is directed to a method for operating a computer system comprising having at least one content

provider for providing content to a user coupled via a portal which may also be coupled to a user; said at least one content provider offering a new content to the portal; the portal comparing credentials of said at least one content provider with stored credentials of registered content providers; and the portal accepting or rejecting at least a particular provider included in said at least one content provider based on said stored credentials.

Oliver et al. does not teach or suggest at least one content provider offering a new content to the portal, and the portal accepting or rejecting at least a particular provider included in said at least one content provider based on stored credentials. In this regard the Examiner has referred to paragraphs 0133, 0031 and 0120 of Oliver et al. However, these paragraphs of Oliver et al. merely deal with, at most, verification associated the user, and not the content provider which provides new content for possible use by a user. The abstract of Oliver et al, and paragraphs 0118 and 0110, also referred to by the Examiner, add nothing of significance here. In fact, Oliver actually teaches away from Applicants' invention because 1) Oliver et al. is dealing with users and not content providers; and 2) Oliver et al. states that there is no requirement that a user register with a particular web site (paragraph 0031). In sharp contrast to Oliver et al., Applicants' invention, as set forth in claim 1, provides the ability to accept or reject a particular content provider and/or new content based on stored credentials. Oliver et al. does not teach or suggest Applicants' invention as set forth in claim 1.

Independent claims 10 has been amended in a manner analogous to independent claim 1. The Examiner, in rejecting claim 10 refers to the same paragraphs of Oliver et al used to reject claim 1, but adds a reference to paragraph 0296 of Oliver et al. However, again paragraph 0296 of Oliver et al. merely deals with issues associated with the user. It says nothing whatsoever about content providers. It is thus respectfully submitted that claim 10 is also patentable over Oliver et al.

Claim 2 recites offering credentials of the at least one content provider to the portal together with the new content. In rejecting claim 2, the Examiner refers to paragraph 0133 of Oliver et al. However, a reading of paragraph 0133 of Oliver et al. shows that it deals merely with a logging facility for logging transactions. It has nothing whatsoever to do with offering credentials of the at least one content provider to the portal together with the new content. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is also directed to patentable subject mater.

Claim 6, which depends from claim 1, specifically recites the portal checking the new content, and the portal accepting or rejecting the new content. The Examiner has provided almost no rationale for the rejection of claim 6, referring to claim 6 only in the paragraph rejecting claim 7. In the paragraph rejecting claim 7, the Examiner refers to paragraph 0162 of Oliver et al. However, it is respectfully submitted that this paragraph of Oliver et al., which merely discusses programming and programming languages, has nothing whatsoever to do with the subject

matter of either claim 6 or claim 7. Thus, there is effectively no rejection of claim 6 or claim 7. In view of this lack of a reason for rejection, especially with regard to claim 6, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 6 and 7.

Newly added, dependent system claim 17 is similar in scope to method claim 6, but depends from independent claim 10. for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 6, and for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 10, it is submitted that newly added claim 17 is directed to patentable subject matter.

Claim 8 recites the user is notified about the new content if the new content matches with preferences of the user. The examiner has based the rejection of claim 8 on paragraph 0122 of Oliver et al. While paragraph 0122 of Oliver et al does say that Publishing Members maintain a user profile, there is no teaching or suggestion that a user is notified about new content if the new content matches with preferences of the user. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is also directed to patentable subject matter.

The remaining original claims depend from one of independent claims 1 or 10. These claims recite further elements, which in combination with the elements of the claim from which they depend, are not shown or suggested in the art of record. For the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 10 it is submitted that claims 3 -

5, 9, and 11 - 16 are also directed to patentable subject matter.

Conclusion

Applicants' invention permits the acceptance or rejection of new content providers and/or new content. There is nothing taught or suggested by Oliver et al. which permits such acceptance or rejection. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' invention is patentably distinguishable from Oliver et al.

In view of the allowable nature of the subject matter of all of the claims, if the Examiner cannot issue an immediate allowance, it is respectfully requested that he contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

David Aker

David Aker, Reg. No. 29,277
23 Southern Road
Hartsdale, NY 10530
Tel. & Fax 914 674-1094

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Date

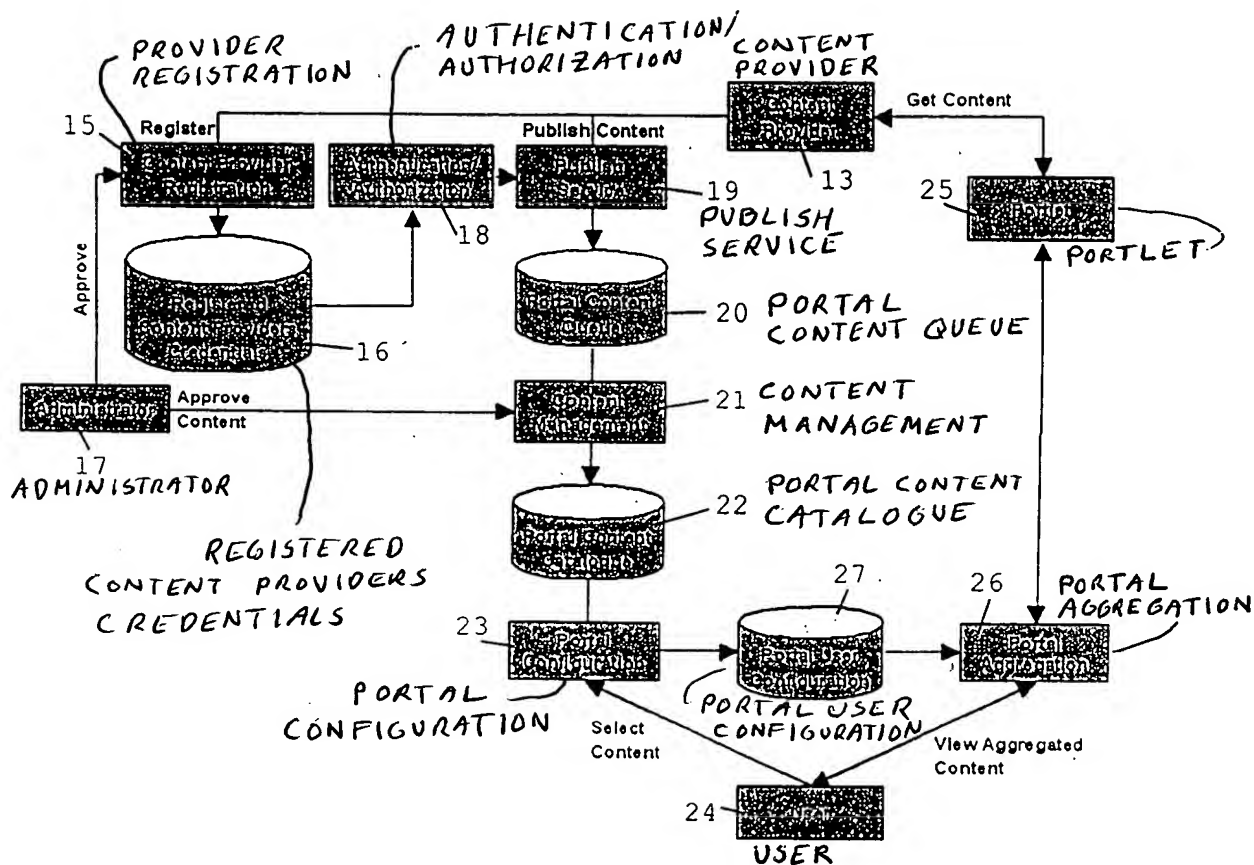


FIG. 2